

CLAIMS

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A method for determining the effectiveness of sleep disordered breathing ("SDB") management of a patient using a computer comprising the steps of:

obtaining and storing (1) data representative of a patient's treatment over a selected time period, said data including body mass index ("BMI") and one or more of apnea hypopnea index ("AHI"), apnea index ("AI"), usage and continuous positive airway pressure ("CPAP") titration, said BMI data being used to characterize said patient; and (2) results regarding treatment of a plurality of patients for obstructive sleep apnea, including a determination of improvement together with BMI and one or more of AHI, AI, usage, and CPAP titration, and

analyzing said data in relation to said results in order to facilitate a comparative determination of the relative effectiveness of SDB management of said patient, and to compare trends in BMI and one or more of AHI, AI, usage, and CPAP titration data among said patient treatment data to those of said representative treatment results so as to determine the relative effectiveness of SDB management of said patient.

22. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the selected time period is adjustable.

23. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein patient characterizations include normal, overweight, obese, and extremely obese.

24. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein a patient characterization of normal represents a BMI range of 19-24.

25. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein a patient characterization of overweight represents a BMI range of 25-29.

26. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein a patient characterization of obese represents a BMI range of 30-39.

27. (New) The method of claim 23 further including a patient characterization of extremely obese representing a BMI range of 40-54.

28. (New) Apparatus for determining the effectiveness of sleep disordered breathing ("SDB") management of a single patient comprising:

a flow generator for generating controlled continuous positive airway pressure ("CPAP") titrated airflow to a patient;

a storage mechanism for obtaining and storing (1) data representative of said patient's characteristics and treatment of SDB over a selected time period, said data

including said patient's body mass index ("BMI") and one or more of apnea hypopnea index ("AHI"), apnea index ("AI"), usage and CPAP titration, said BMI data being used to characterize said patient; and (2) results regarding a plurality of patients' treatment of obstructive sleep apnea including a determination of improvement together with BMI and one or more of AHI, AI, usage, and CPAP titration;

a computer programmed to analyze said data regarding said patient's treatment relative to said results regarding a plurality of patients' treatment in order to facilitate a comparative determination of the relative effectiveness of SDB management of said patient; and

a display coupled to said computer for displaying results of said analysis.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein the selected time period is adjustable.

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein the patient characterization is displayed as a label on a single screen of said display.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein patient characterizations include normal, overweight, obese, and extremely obese.

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 31 wherein a patient characterization of normal represents a BMI range of 19-24.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 31 wherein a patient characterization of overweight represents a BMI range of 25-29.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 31 wherein a patient characterization of obese represents a BMI range of 30-39.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 31 further including a patient characterization of extremely obese representing a BMI range of 40-54.